



*The Fred W. Smith*  
**NATIONAL LIBRARY**  
*for the Study of*  
**GEORGE WASHINGTON**  
*at Mount Vernon*

**D**uring his all-too-brief retirement at Mount Vernon, George Washington wrote to a friend, "I have no other houses to build, except one, which I must erect for the accommodation and security of my military, civil and private papers, which are voluminous and may be interesting." Washington started to assemble these books and papers in a small structure adjacent to the Mansion. But he ran out of time, and probably energy, departing this world in December 1799.

Now, more than two centuries later, the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association is finally turning George Washington's unfulfilled dream into a reality. Today's groundbreaking, therefore, is of historic importance – we are fulfilling the wishes of George Washington and promising to protect his words and deeds as vigorously as we protect his Mansion.

We were able to accept this challenge only because of the remarkable generosity of the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation and its patriotic chairman, Fred W. Smith, which committed \$38 million to the project. This easily ranks as the largest gift in Mount Vernon history. The Foundation inspired many others to follow in its footsteps, particularly John and Adrienne Mars, and Richard and Helen DeVos.

As members of the Library Task Force started to visit and study similar institutions across the country, the vision for the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of

George Washington has grown and diversified. The final design not only includes state-of-the-art facilities for Washington's books and papers, but also has room for other archival collections and modern-day books on Washington. Visiting scholars can study Washington in a light-filled reading room or in private offices. They can stay for weeks or months, residing in a charming guest house, to delve deep into Washington's life and times.

But the knowledge gleaned by Washington scholars – past, present and future – should not be shared just with colleagues, or even with Mount Vernon's million visitors a year. That is why the research and scholarly staff members are adjacent to the best history educators and experts in technology, who will use every means possible to spread this knowledge on Washington from sea to shining sea.

Finally, the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington will have an array of meeting and conference spaces that will be used to conduct in-depth learning programs for special audiences, especially teachers. Leaders from all walks of life will participate in institutes that focus on Washington's character and leadership, which

will set the gold standard for each new generation.

The National Library will quickly become the intellectual center of the world for George Washington studies, a hub of creative outreach programs that will reach the hearts and minds of millions, and a place where American leaders can be nurtured and encouraged to follow Washington's example.



Fred W. Smith cuts the ribbon in October 2006 for the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center, to the delight of renowned author David McCullough.

## *Early Partners*

The following donors have made generous commitments to the project during the earliest stage of the Campaign for the Library, and their names will be included on a Wall of Honor in the building, hopefully joined by dozens of future donors who believe in protecting the legacy of George Washington.

### *Commander in Chief*

Donald W. Reynolds Foundation

### *General*

Richard and Helen DeVos • John and Adrienne Mars

### *Benefactor*

Karen Buchwald Wright and Tom Rastin

### *Patron*

Ann & John Bookout • Maribeth & Wm. Harold Borthwick • Donald de Laski  
Robert W. Plaster Foundation • Richard M. Scaife

### *Sponsor*

The Founders, Washington Committee for Historic Mount Vernon

### *Leader*

Forrest E. Mars, Jr. • Middendorf Foundation, Inc.  
Adelia Garro Simplot • Robert H. & Clarice Smith

### *Sustainer*

Margaret & James Allison • Theodore & St. Clair Craver  
Richard A. & Janice M. Crosby • The Felicia Fund, Inc. • Gay & Stanley N. Gaines  
Joseph & Lucia Henderson • Martin R. Lewis & Diane C. Brandt  
The Mendell Family Fund, Inc. • Mr. & Mrs. P. William Moore, Jr.  
George & Carol Overend • Melody Sawyer Richardson • Sachem Foundation, Inc.  
Dr. Scholl Foundation • Mr. & Mrs. Everette C. Sherrill

### *Fellow*

Theodore H. Ashford • Atlantic Trust Private Wealth Management • Mr. & Mrs. Richard Baruch  
Diana S. Clagett • Anne & James F. Crumpacker Family • Mr. & Mrs. W. Lipscomb Davis, Jr.  
The Frances & Beverly DuBose Foundation • Jared & Clare Edwards  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary N. Geisel • General Society of Colonial Wars • Robin A. & Jon E. Hass, Sr.  
Hugh & Barbara Heishman • Mr. & Mrs. David Garth Holdsworth • Jorie Butler Kent  
The Sartain Lanier Family Foundation, Inc. • Barbara B. & Benjamin F. Lucas II  
The M&T Charitable Foundation • George W. & Alice J. MacPherson Trust  
Frank & Liz Mauran • Mr. & Mrs. Charles Buck Mayer • Eleanor & Phillip Newman  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Petri • John R. & Barbara Robinson • Daniel & Joanna S. Rose  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Schley Rutherford • The Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland  
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. • Ken & Alice Starr • Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. J. Sullivan, Jr.

**COMMANDER IN CHIEF:** \$30 Million-plus | **GENERAL:** \$10M-\$29.9 Million  
**BENEFACITOR:** \$5-\$9.9 Million | **PATRON:** \$1-\$4.9 Million | **SPONSOR:** \$500-\$999 Thousand  
**LEADER:** \$250-\$499 Thousand | **SUSTAINER:** \$100-\$249 Thousand | **FELLOW:** \$25-\$99 Thousand

# *Groundbreaking Ceremony*

*10:30 a.m., Thursday, April 14, 2011*

---

## *Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance*

ANN BOOKOUT, REGENT

## *National Anthem*

CARESSA CAMERON, MISS AMERICA 2010

## *Welcome and Introduction of Special Guests*

THE REGENT

## *The Campaign for The Library*

GAY HART GAINES, VICE REGENT FOR FLORIDA

## *The Legacy of Washington*

FRED W. SMITH, CHAIRMAN

DONALD W. REYNOLDS FOUNDATION

## *In Appreciation*

THE VICE REGENT FOR FLORIDA

BOYCE ANSLEY, VICE REGENT FOR GEORGIA

CLARE EDWARDS, VICE REGENT FOR CONNECTICUT

## *Introduction of Speaker*

JOHN WARNER

U.S. SENATOR (RET.)

## *Keynote Remarks*

DR. ROBERT M. GATES

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

## *Over Two Hundred Years in the Making*

“GEORGE WASHINGTON”

## *Building a National Library*

JAMES C. REES, PRESIDENT & CEO

GEORGE WASHINGTON’S MOUNT VERNON

## *Groundbreaking*

## *God Bless America*

CARESSA CAMERON

Guests are invited to self-tour the site and partake of light refreshments following the program.



*George Washington's*  
**MOUNT VERNON**  
ESTATE, MUSEUM & GARDENS